

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

monitoring in a routing means control signaling between two end-points, the control ~~signal~~ signaling being specifically for separate audio, video and data streams forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points each located in a network system, the audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media component;

informing, by way of the routing means, control means about the separate media components;

recognizing in the routing means the separate media components associated with a call between the two end-points; and

applying, in the routing means, a connection control issued by the control means to the separate media components, which permits signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein in the monitoring step call control means receive a media component control signaling message.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the informing step includes the steps of:

sending a message to the control means; and

waiting for a response from the control means.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the informing step includes the steps of:

sending a message to the control means;

waiting for a response from the control means;

receiving a message from the control means; and

sending a modified component control signaling message from call control means.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein in the monitoring step, if media component control signaling messages are routed via media proxy means, the call control means request report of media component related events from the media proxy means, and the media proxy means inform the call control means of the media component related events.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the multimedia stream is routed via media proxy means communicating with call control means.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the informing step includes the steps of:

sending a message from call control means to the control means; and
waiting for a response from the control means to the call control means.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the media component control signaling message describes opening, closing or modifying a media component.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the media component control signaling message is in association with a call signaling message.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the media components associated with a call are recognized in the media proxy.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, further comprising a connection control step including the steps of:

issuing connection control requests from the control means to the call control means;

issuing connection control requests from the call control means to the media proxy means; and

switching the media components by the media proxy means in accordance with the connection control requests.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the switching step involves media proxy switching IP packet payloads carrying a media component between an incoming and outgoing packet stream.

13. (Currently Amended) A network system comprising:

control means for providing media component control signaling between two end-points, the control signal being specifically for separate audio, video and data streams forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points each located in the network system, the audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media component; and

routing means for monitoring the media component control signaling between the two end-points, informing the control means about the separate media components, recognizing the separate media components associated with a call between the two end-points, and for applying a connection control issued by the control means to the separate media components, which permits signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permit the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages.

14. (Previously Presented) The network system according to claim 13, wherein the routing means which comprise call control means and media proxy means receive a media component control signaling message.

15. (Original) The network system according to claim 13, wherein the routing means send a message to the control means and wait for a response from the control means.

16. (Previously Presented) The network system according to claim 13, wherein the routing means send a message to the control means, wait for a response from the control means,

receive a message from the control means and send a modified component control signaling message from call control means.

17. (Previously Presented) The network system according to claim 14, wherein, if media component control signaling messages are routed via the media proxy means, the call control means request report of media component related events from the media proxy means and the media proxy means informing the call control means of the media component related events.

18. (Previously Presented) The network system according to claim 13, wherein the multimedia stream is routed via media proxy means communicating with call control means.

19. (Previously Presented) The network system according to claim 13, wherein the routing means send a message from call control means to the control means and wait for a response from the control means to the call control means.

20. (Original) The network system according to claim 14, wherein the media component control signaling message describes opening, closing or modifying a media component.

21. (Original) The network system according to claim 14, wherein the media component control signaling message is in association with a call signaling message.

22. (Original) The network system according to claim 18, wherein the media components associated with a call are recognized in the media proxy.

23. (Original) The network system according to claim 22, wherein, for connection control, the control means issue connection control requests to the call control means, the call control means issue connection control requests to the media proxy means and the media proxy means switch the media components in accordance with the connection control requests.

24. (Original) The network system according to claim 23, wherein the switching involves media proxy switching IP packet payloads carrying a media component between an incoming and outgoing packet stream.

25. (Currently Amended) A network device for providing a connection control signal between two end-points, the control signal being specifically for ~~seperate~~ separate audio, video and data streams forming a multimedia stream transferred between the two end-points each located in a network system, the separate audio, video and data streams each forming a separate media component, the network device being configured to monitor media component control signaling between the two end-points, inform controls means about separate media components associated with a call between the two end-points, and apply a connection control issued by the control means to the separate media components, which permits signaling messages related to the separate media components to be respectively modified and permits the signaling messages to be separately relayed to each of the separate media components related to each of the respective signaling messages.

26. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the audio, video and data streams each forming the separate media component are routable via different paths between the two end-points.